

No. 14,637.

WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 1900-FOURTEEN PAGES.

Commerce.

Bill Amended So as to Apply the Con

tract System - British Company's

Concessions in the Philippines.

The House committee on interstate and

foreign commerce today reconsidered the Nicaragua canal bill, which had been re-

ported with an appropriation of \$140,000.

000, and changed the appropriation section

vation, construction, defense and comple-

tion of the canal at a total cost not exceed-

Before this action was taken Mr. Hep

burn, chairman of the committee, stated

that as all the members of the committee

was well to consider some objections which

nad been raised. He had heard several ob-

begin the work.

Mr. Corliss of Michigan thereupon offer-

Mr. Fletcher of Minnesota asked: "When you get that canal half built for \$140,000,000 what will you do for the other half?"

Mr. Corliss answered that the highest estimate of cost thus far was \$133,006,000.

Mr. Hepburn added that in the amended form the bill simply applied the contract system and limited the aggregate to \$140,-000,000.

In the amended form the bill was ordered

The Pacific Cable.

The Pacific cable question was then taken

up, and Gen. Wager Swayne of New York spoke in favor of private construction and

operation of the cable line as against gov-

Mr. Louis Marshall of New York appeared

Mr. Louis Marshall of New York appeared in behalf of the Eastern Extension and Australasian Telegraph Company, the British company which now operates the cable connections with the Philippines, and stated that he was present to submit a "caveat" or notice of prior rights. He explained the concessions held by this company from Spain, some of them extending until 1940, and one of them granted in 1808, giving exclusive landing rights in the Spanish Pacific Islands until 1918.

Mr. Marshall said the company maintained that these grants by Spain were binding on the United States, as this government had succeeded to Spain's sovereignty and had "put itself in Spain's shoes."

Mr. Corliss asked if it was claimed the United States could not lay a cable to Manila.

Mr. Marshall said it was held this could.

Manila.

Mr. Marshall said it was held this could not be done without extinguishing the existing rights in some regular way. He submitted a brief on this point and will be heard further.

Claims Controverted.

Capt. Squier, acting chief signal officer, stated that owing to the assertion of ex-

clusive rights the War Department had

secured copies of the original concessions

under which this British company was

operating. He said these controverted the

claims of exclusive rights. They were being translated and would soon be submitted

Plan Involving Changes in About Seventy

five Positions.

These Places Aggregate in Salary

About \$90,000 Per

Annum.

The reorganization of the Senate is now

in absorbing topic among the hundreds of

employes about the north wing of the Cap-

tol. Up to within the last few days it has

appeared very doubtful whether the reor-

ganization would go very much beyond

change in the offices of secretary and ser

geant-at-arms. The caucus committee ap-

pointed to inquire into the distribution of

man, reported in favor of giving to each

enator-republican, democratic and popu-

ist-places representing \$1,440 in salary

regarded as men of such special qualifica-

tions as to make their retention desirable

be made a class unto themselves and charged to no senator. After that was

one, according to the plan, the balance o

the places were to be apportioned among republican senators. Had this plan been carried out there would have been comparatively few changes in the Senate rolls.

Another Plan Determined On.

But it was rejected by the caucus and

another committee composed of Senators Platt of Connecticut, McMillan of Michigan,

Perkins of California, Sewell of New Jer-

sey, Carter of Montana, Hanna of Ohio and

Mason of Ulinois, and this committee has

determined upon another plan which will

determined upon another plan which will doubtlessly be carried out within comparatively a short time. This plan involves changes in about seventy-five positions now held by men whose "influence" has passed out of the Senate, or is democratic, and these places aggregate in salary about \$80,000 per annum. Under this plan only senators of the minority who have long been in the Senate will be allowed a certain amount of patronage. Younger senators of the minority will not be recognized in this distribution of places.

These changes are in both the offices of the secretary and the sergeant at arms and involve positions from high-salaried clerkships to places on the watch force, in the folding room and mechanical departments connected with the Senate. The reorganization will soon begin, and within three or four weeks it is likely that all the changes to be made under the plan of reorganization will have taken place.

AT THE WHITE HOUSE.

Very Little to Occupy the Attention of the Cabinet

action is to be taken now. If the valuation of the coins is changed it will be done after the Postmaster General and Secretary of the Treasury have a consultation.

Secretary Root was without news today. The reports made by him frequently take up most of the time of the cabinet.

providing that positions held by employe

patronage, of which Mr. Mason was chair-

REORGANIZATION

SENATE

reported.

ed the following new section, which

ing \$140,000,000.

TWO CENTS.

WARREN FALLS BACK

He Abandens the Position He Captured on Spion Kop.

DISPATCH FROM GEN. BULLER

Speculation in London as to the Reason for His Move.

LATEST FROM LADYSMITH

LONDON, January 26, 11:10 a.m.-Th war office has just posted the following dispatch from Gen. Buller, dated Spearman's Camp, Thursday, January 25, noon:

"Gen Warren's garrison, I am sorry to say, I find this morning, had in the night abandoned Spion Kop."

The Latest From Ladysmith. LADYSMITH, January 21, by runner via

Frere Camp, Wednesday, January 24.—The garrison is watching Gen. Buller's guns shelling the Boers. Their fire can be seen at this distance, and appears to be very effective. The movements of the Boers show that they are evidently determined to stubbornly oppose the advance of the relief column. They show no signs of removing their guns and have mounted new ones and are continually strengthening their fertifications. Our fortifications have been greatly strengthened since January 6, and Ladysmith is now practically impregnable. Owing to the dry weather the fever has diminished, and the number of convalescents returning from Intombi camp exceeds that of the patients being sent there. The supplies are spinning out splendidly, all the troops having sufficient wholesome food. The heat is terrific, the thermometer registering 107 degrees in the shade.

LIST OF BRITISH CASUALTIES. Gen. Buller Reports Losses Sustained

on January 24.

LONDON, January 26.—Gen. Buller reports that the British casualties January 24 were:

Killed-Officers, 6; non-commissioned officers and men. 18.

Wounded-Officers, 12; non-commissioned officers and men, 142; missing, 31 men. Gen. Buller's dispatch is dated Spear-

man's Camp, January 26, 10:25 a.m., so there has been no delay in the communications passing between Gen. Buller and the war office. The killed include Col. Buchanan Riddell of the King's Royal Rifles. He served in the Niger war of 1881. It was not clear whether the casualties

include those at Spionkop, or only those resulting from the fighting prior to the Spion-

BOMBARDMENT OF KIMBERLEY. Boer Report of an Unsuccessful Sortie at Ladysmith.

PRETORIA, Wednesday, January 24.--The federal forces have started a heavy

pecially in Kaffirs, following the announce ment of Gen. Warren's abandonment of Spion Kop.

American railroad shares were relatively better than home securities

HOW THE NEWS WAS RECEIVED. British Public Takes the Reverse in Philosophic Spirit. LONDON, January 26.—In the words of

an editorial in the Westminster Gazette this afternoon: "The Associated Press said Warren's success was exactly what it was-provisional,"

The Westminster Gazette's remark was called out by George W. Smalley's cable to the Times this morning saying: "The Associated Press takes care that

we shall not overestimate Warren's success, suggesting that it is only provisional, and that there is the usual disposition of London to exaggerate the importance of

the point scored."
The Westminster Gazette then proceeds to defend its own course, pointing out that it is not unpatriotic to "decline to gloss

As a matter of fact Great Britain as As a matter of fact Great Britain assumes that the point gained was more conclusive than it really was, hence the extreme revuision of feeling caused by General Buller's announcement of the abandonment of Spion Kop. Considering that the Boers who held the position fied, that the British casualties in retaining it during the subsequent attacks were heavy

and that the strategical value of the point had still to be demonstrated there never was any great reason for throwing up hats, and until further particulars arrive it is impossible to estimate to what ex-tent the public disappointment is justi-fied.

Encouraging News From Ladysmith. Under other circumstances the news from Ladysmith showing greatly improved sanitary conditions, the plentifulness of pro-visions and the strengthening of the fortifications until the place is regarded as im-pregnable would have inspirited the nation, but these good tidings to the British are overshadowed by anxiety as to the sit-uation on the upper Tugela, and the thought that the heavy losses suffered during the struggle Tuesday night have counted for naught. Military circles made no effort to conceal their chargin, expressing the grav-est fears as to the ultimate fate of Lady-Such authorities as Maj. Gen. S smith. Such authorities as Maj. Gen. Sir Frederick Carrington, who is under orders for South Africa, and Lord Gifford, who won the Victoria Cross while scouting for Lord Wooiseley curing the Sulu war, would rot be surprised to hear of the capture of Gen. White's force within a week. Lord Gifford, who knows the country like a book, could not understand how in the world Gen. Warren even got to the top of Spion Kop without ascertaining what positions commanded it. commanded it.

Flush of Disappointment.

As far as the general public is concerned now that the first flush of disappointment is over, it takes the news stolidly. When the newspapers, bearing big placards containing the words "Spion Kop abandoned," appeared in the streets the people rushed to buy the papers, and from cabmen on top of hansoms to business men hurrying citywards, all could be seen scanning the news with dazed expressions. The signs of pleasure which were visible everywhere vesterday have now given place to a wave of de-pression, but there have been no outward demonstrations or scenes. In the west end the rapidity with which the bad news trav-

the rapidity with which the bad news traveled was remarkable.

A few minutes before 11 o'clock this morning the dingy war office had a deserted appearance, only a few reporters and messengers being visible about the building. A few minutes later, however, and almost simultaneously with the posting of Gen. Buller's dispatch, carriages and cabs came rolling up, people with anxious faces hastened to the notice boards and the lobbles soon became congested.

The afternoon newspapers only briefly comment on the situation, preferring to await fuller particulars.

The St. James Gazette says:

"We are only at the beginning."

The St. James Gazette says:
"We are only at the beginning."
The Westminster Gazette suggests that
the abandonnent of Spionkop need not
mean more than that a miscalculation was mean more than that a miscalculation was made regarding the value of the kop.

The Pall Mull Gazette expects that "the alvance will again continue, as it began, with a series of rushes. A kopje taken here, half a mile gain there, and that we shall have, in short, to fight our way to the rescue by hardly won degrees. Ladysmith, nevertheless, will be saved."

The Globe says it is assured that the country will face the situation "calmly and bravely, with the firm determination to press forward unflinchingly, in spite of all obstacles."

THE MODDER RIVER FIGHT. As Seen by a Highlander Who Was Present.

LONDON, January 17 .- The following acount of the Modder river fight was received from one of the Argyle and Sutherlan! Highlanders:

"We have had some hot fighting with Methuen, but we got through all right until the eleventh, when we got a licking. We bombardment of Kimberley. The garrison's of the Highland brigade had to march durnew gun carried five miles, but collapsed ing the night to surprise the Boers. No laager of the Pretoria commando. The British retired with evident loss. One Boer was wounded. A heavy cannonade started this morning and still continues.

Transport Lancaster at Cape Town, CAPE TOWN, January 26.—The British transport Lancaster Corporation has arrived here.

Collapse on London Exchange.

LONDON, January 26.—There was a general collapse in the stock market today, especially in Kaffire for the Rose to a question of Mr. Chandler, Mr. Gallagher said that the National Millers' Association and the national board of trade were favorable to such legisland of us were shot down. We all ran for our lives and reformed 500 yards back, when the Gordons joined us and we again tried the trenches. But it was no good. All day we lay out in the sun, without food or drink, and in the afternoon the Boer shells began bursting among us, so we made the best of our way to the rear. The men were sick and dispirited, there was no find were in them were sick and dispirited, there was no find were in the sun.

An answer to a question of Mr. Chandler, Mr. Gallagher said that the National Millers' Association and the national board of trade were favorable to such legisland to a question of Mr. Chandler, Mr. Gallagher said that the National Millers' Association and the national board of trade were favorable to such legisland to a question of Mr. Chandler, Mr. Gallagher said that the National Millers' Association and the national board of trade were favorable to such legisland to a question of Mr. Chandler, Mr. Gallagher said that the National Millers' Association and the national board of trade were favorable to such legisland to a question of trade were favorable to such legisland to a question of trade were favorable to such legisland to a question of trade were favorable to such legisland to a question of trade were favorable to such legisland to a question of trade were favorable to such legisland to a question of trade were favorable to such legisland to a question of trade were favorable to such legisland to a question o one knew what we were going to do or best of our way to the rear. The men were sick and dispirited, there was no fight left in them, and they would not stop for the officers or for any one else. General Wauchope was killed—hit in seven places. He was the right sort. They say it was not his mistake at all, and he did not want the night attack. night attack. Anyway, it was a ghastly

failure.

"The camp at Modder river was full of Boer spies—colonials and others—so' our every move was watched and information carried to the enemy. Some of these disloyal colonials have been caught redhanded fighting against the queen. Why don't they shoot them right off? Instead of sending them down for trial—they don't deserve it.

"Most of the regiments here are full of young boys for officers, and the men don't care about them. I saw some of them at Modder river fight like a lot of school boys, shouting out orders that none of us could understand, so the old hands took no notice of them and went their own way, as best they could. Most of the regiments are the same; the Guards are best off for officers. None of us can make out why so rany young officers are sent out to take charge of old soldiers. Why can't we have more of our old officers? My late captain, who left us at Aldershot, came to see us off, and we asked why he was not coming with us. He replied that the war office would not let him rejoin. He was a good man. We should not have lost half the men we did if we had had older officers.

"We were a good brigade if we had not been messed up and if only Wauchope had been left to handle us himself. This is a terrible war, and God only knows how it will end.

"My wound is not a bad one—a shot "The camp at Modder river was full of

through the fleshy part of the thigh—and was so excited I did not notice it for an hour or two."



THE SCENE AROUND WAR AT LADYSMITH

MORE POWER NEEDED CANAL AND PACIFIC CABLE PLAGUE IN

Interstate Commerce Commission Styled a "Moot Court."

HEARING BEFORE SENATE COMMITTEE

Complaints Against the Rail-

A PROPOSED AMENDMENT

The Senate committee on commerce to lay gave a hearing to the representatives of a number of business organizations throughout the country in support of the bill to amend the interstate commerce law. The first statement was made by Mr. Frank Barry of Milwaukee. He is secretary of the National Millers' Association and the accredited representative of the National League of Industrial Associations He commended the pending bill, saying that it had been framed with a view to doing justice to both the shipper and carrier. He condemned the present law, saying that it had become impotent and valueless, and the interstate commerce commission was nothing more than a moot court.

In reply to questions from Senator Tillman, Mr. Barry said the Standard Oil, sugar trust and the large flouring mills of sugar trust and the large flouring mills of the northwest and grain elevator interests were not co-operating in this movement. He had no direct information on the subject of favoritism, but he called attention to the recent changes of freight classification made by the railroads, which, he said, left car-load rates on oil practically where they were, while it raised the rate on fractional car-load rates from 200 to 300 per cent. It was not difficult to see that this was in the interest of the Standard Oil Company. Mr. Barry expressed the opinion that the Minneapolis millers were receiving discriminatory rates from the railroads.

Wheat Favored.

Mr. Barry also made complaint of the discrimination by the railroads in favor of wheat for export as against flour for export. He thought the discrimination was due to the fact that many of the railroad men were large owners in the elevators. men were large owners in the elevators. Augustine Gallagher of St. Louis, commissioner of the Miller's National Association, spoke especially of the interests of the millers in the proposed legislation. He said that the railroads were not content with controlling the mines and the forests of the country, but that they were now attempting to control the ballots of the people along their lines. He contended that the railroad system of the middle west, so far as the grain interests are concerned, are

rallroad system of the middle west, so far as the grain interests are concerned, are practically parceled out by large firms in Chicago and other cities.

Mr. Gallagher, in response to an inquiry of Chairman Cullom, said he firmly believed the adoption of the amendment proposed by the national board of trade would produce results immensely beneficial to the whole people.

Further along Mr. Gallagher said that the exportation of wheat from the United states last year was about 148,000,000 bushels, possibly 60 per cent of which went to the British Isles. The labor cost of producing flour, he said, was something

of producing flour, he said, was something more than 20 cents a barrel, and, of course, that amount was lost to the labor of this country on the exported wheat,

trade, I deny that I have any such intention. I do not and they do not advocate anything of the kind," replied Mr.

Gallagher. "You understand, I take it," said Mr

"You understand, I take it," said Mr. Chandler, "that the great mass of shippers want an organization similar to the old Joint Traffic Association?"

"They do," replied Mr. Gallagher. "If the resolution adopted by the National Board of Trade does not convey that idea I ask this committee to prepare one that will."

"Well," said Mr. Chandler, "some of us "Well," said Mr. Chandler, "some of us politicians cannot understand why the National Board of Trade and the National Millers' Association should desire the establishment of a railroad trust, the idea of which is to crush railway competition."

"We do not want to crush competition," replied Mr. Gallagher, "and what we ask will not accomplish such an end."

till not accomplish such an end."
"You want, then," inquired Senator Alen, "to authorize the railroads to maintain rates without the pooling of the railroads?"
"That's it," replied Mr. Gallagher.
"Well," said Mr. Allen, "that's another name for the same thing."

Discrimination Against Flour. E. O. Stanard of St. Louis, a flour manufacturer, stated that the railroads for years had been giving rates to wheat shippers in

discrimination against the flour manufac-"This discrimination is so great that the British flour manufacturer can make flour from American wheat at least 18 cents a barrel cheaper than the same flour could be made here," he said. In conclusion, Mr. Stanard stated there was nothing in the proposed amendment which would enable the railroads to consolidate or pool their interests.

More Authority for Commission. E. P. Wilson of Cincinnati, secretary of the National Association of Manufacturers said it was essential that the interstate commerce law be amended so that the in terstate commerce commission would have some vitality and be able to do something He believed that the commission ought to have authority to step in between the railroads and shippers and settle dis-putes until the question could be adjudicated by the courts.

cated by the courts.

He did not approve of the idea of permitting the interstate commission to fix the rates of railroads. That would be an insane notion, in his opinion.

In conclusion, Mr. Wilson said that the bill before the committee was an excellent measure and would accomplish, he believed, the ends desired.

Funeral of Gen. Stanton

The remains of the late Gen. T. H. Stan ton, who died at Omaha Tuesday last, are expected to arrive in this city at 1 o'clock tomorrow over the Pennsylvania road, for interment in Arlington cemetery. A military escort of cavalry and artillery will be provided by the War Department. The honorary pallbearers will be Senator Hawley, Senator Shoup, Adjt. Gen. Corbin, Gen. George M. Randall, Gen. Absalom Baird and Maj. John M. Carson.

Setback for Gen. Greely.

General Greely has experienced a setback in the steady improvement of his con-dition up to the present time in the shape of a cold contracted while on a visit to the War Department day before yesterday. The general has been confined to his bed ever

Ouestions Refore the House Committee on Frightened by the Disease.

Previously the Scourge Had Been Mostly Among Chinese.

so as to make \$10,000,000 available, with QUARANTINE PRECAUTIONS authority to contract for the entire exca-

were anxious for the success of the bill, it have been discovered. The most impor jections on the ground that the whole \$140,-000,000 was appropriated now, and three or four gentlemen had said they would not support the bill if the entire sum was appropriated now, but would support it if only a portion was made available at once to begin the work. old resident. This case was reported Janubefore she died. This case created great alarm among the white people here, and ed the following new section, which was adopted:
"Sec. 6. That the sum of \$10,000,000 is hereby appropriated out of any money in the treasury not otherwise appropriated toward the project herein contemplated, and the Secretary of War is further hereby authorized to enter into a contract or contracts for materials and work that may be deemed necessary for the proper excavation, construction, defense and completion of said canal, to be paid for as appropriations may from time to time be hereafter made, not to exceed in the aggregate \$140,000,000." twice a day, and each occupant must be accounted for

It is believed that this plan will do more to stamp out the trouble than any steps yet taken. The board of health continues to burn all of the infected buildings.
About half of Chinatown has been destroyed. Before the month is out it is expected that this plague spot will be entirely reduced to ashes.

Citizens of Hile in a Frenzy. b armed with guns and stones

an ugly demonstration at the landing. Min-ister Cooper's show of authority was not of the slightest avail and the people at Hilo did not mind being told that they

Honolulu Not a Closed Port.

Honolulu is not a closed port. In spite of reports to the contrary from San Francisco he Australian passengers will be quarantined in San Francisco, judging by advices received today via the Australia. The book ings for San Francisco number 150, and W ings for San Francisco number 150, and W. G. Irwin & Co. are preparing to fit up the quarters of the vessel usually used by steerage passengers for cabin passengers. The quarantine at the other end will be fifteen days, though it is possible the period of time occupied oy the voyage will be deducted. San Francisco has apparently taken on a bit of a scare as a result of the last advices and the greatest precautions are now being taken against infection from this port.

morning from Yokohama. She was anchored outside the harbor, as there is no room on quarantine island for her passengers. The Japanese brought by the Deyo Maru are still on the vessel, quarantine isrull, and it is likely to be long time before the latest arrivals ar

News by the Miowera.

VANCOUVER, B. C., January 26.-News from Honolulu per steamer Miowera says: The total number of deaths up to the time the Miowera sailed for this port was 29 out of 39 cases. Two were whites and another was a half caste. The other deaths were about equally divided between Hawaiian natives and the orientals. Six other whites who caught the disease were be-lieved to be convalescent. The total death list is as follows: Two whites, one half caste, ten Hawaiians, three Japanese and

Mall advices from Sydney announce twen-ty-three cases of bubonic plague at Nou-mea, the capital of New Caledonia, and special precaution in all Australian colo-nies to guard against its importation. Two steamers having landed passengers from New Caledonia at Sydney before the plague situation was known there occa-

ANNUAL OYSTER LUNCH.

Gallery Enjoy It.

The annual oyster lunch was eaten, and the health of ex-Representative Libby of lirginia was toasted. Every winter for sixteen years Mr. Libb as sent from his own Lynn Haven oyster

beds several kegs of selected oysters to the press gallery. Mr. Libby commenced the practice when he was a member of the House, and, although he has been out of Congress for many years, it has please aim to continue the pleasant habit. Th personnel of the gallery has changed many imes over in that period. Correspondents times over in that period. Correspondents have come and correspondents have gone, but as regularly as the seasons change the oysters have appeared. The new men in the gallery ask who is Mr. Libby, and why does he do this. The veterans explain who Mr. Libby is, and say he does it apparently because he likes to: there is no other reason in sight. Mr. Libby isn't in sight himself, and only the older correspondents know him.

know him.

Today was the day for the annual event Doorkeeper Mann of the House press gal lery arranged a table in the ante-room, and the two hundred and odd correspondents of the corps celebrated the occasion in du form during the afterno

the Cabinet.

The cabinet was so little occupied today that it spent some time in an unimportant discussion of the value of allver money in circulation in Cuba, the question being brought up by the Postmaster General. No action is to be taken how. If the valuation

stringent measures, as it is believed Rus sia is the leading hand in the coup d'etat.

HAWAII DRIVING OUT INSURGENTS EULOGIES OF HOBART

People of the Islands Thoroughly

WHITE WOMAN DIES IN HONOLULU

HONOLULU, January 17, via Victoria, B. C., January 26.—Up to and including January 13 there were thirty-four cases of bubonic plague reported, setenteen of which proved fatal. Since that date five cases tant and alarming was that of a white woman, the wife of George Borman, an ary 14. The woman lingered for two days citizens' meeting was called and active steps were taken to district the city, and now a house to house inspection is made

The citizens of Hilo are worked into frenzy by the plague news, and those on shore even tried to keep the sheriff, Mr. Andrews, from returning after he made a visit to Minister Cooper on the steamer Kinau, on the occasion of the latter's visit in connection with the burning of mail by the local authorities. Not only the or-ganized movement to keep off communica-tion with Honolulu manifested itself, but

Hilo did not mind being told that they were in rebellion against the government. "We don't care if it was the President of the United States," they shouted. "He could not land here."

Sheriff Andrews finally succeeded in getting ashore. He secured the aid of the United States survey ship Pathfinder, which vessel was in the harbor. He was finally landed, and then began another stormy meeting in Hilo.

Japanese Emigrants Arrive.

The Japanese steamer Yorohine Maru, with about 700 emigrants, arrived this

a long time before the latest arrivals are taken off the steamer.

The arrival of the emigrants on the Yorohine Maru makes about 3,000 that have arrived this month already. The Yorohine Maru is thought to have the last that are coming and the importation of contract acbor from Japan is probably about at an end.

thirteen Chinese.

A Rd Cross Society, formed by some of the most prominent ladies of Honoluly is A RI Cross Society, formed by some of the most prominent ladies of Honolulu, is said to have done most effective work, and the local physicians and clergymen have continually gone among the sick and dying, submitting to voluntary isolation to minis-ter to the physical and spiritual needs of the stricken ones. he stricken ones.

Mail advices from Sydney announce twen

ioned much alarm.

Correspondents in the House Press An ancient custom, which has existed in the press gallery for many years, was celebrated today with the usual ceremony.

DUE TO RUSSIAN INFLUENCE. Japan Greatly Stirred Over the

LONDON, January 26.-A special dispatch from Shanghai says the news of the abdication of the Chinese Emperor has caused a tremendous sensation in Japan, where a strong desire is expressed to adopt

Gen. Otis Describes Activity of Hayes' Cavalry.

Rescue of Twenty Spanish Prisoners and Five Women-Dispersion of the Enemy-Naval Co-Operation.

General Otis has made the following report of recent operations in the Philippines: "MANILA, January 26, 1900. 'Adjutant General, Washington:

"Hayes' cavalry, reported at Santa Cruz drove the enemy out of Luzena, Tayabas and adjacent towns; rescued twenty Span ish prisoners and five women. Other Spanish prisoners were moved back in small detachments into the mountains. The endetachments into the mountains. The en-emy dispersed and the greater part is be-lieved to be seeking homes at Tayabas. Found record dated 15th instant.saying that eleven American prisoners will leave to-morrow, know not to what place. Hayes' casualties were one killed, three mortally wounded, two slightly wounded. OTIS."

Opening Hemp Ports.

According to a message received at the War Department this afternoon Gen. Otis is making good progress against stubborn resistance in his plan of opening the hemp ports of Luzon to the markets of the world. The dispatch follows:

"MANILA, January 26, 1900.

"Adjutant General, Washington:

"Kobbe's troops occupy the hemp ports or Sorsogon, Donsol, Bulan, Albay and Legaspi, southeastern Luzon, Virac Island, Catanduanes; will probably occupy the ports of Calbayoc, Cathbalogan and Tacleban of the islands of Sanar of Leyte before tomorrow evening.

ban of the islands of Sanar of Leyte before tomorrow evening.

"No opopsition met, except at Logaspi,
where 800 insurgents, strongly intrenched,
under Chinese general Powah, made a stubborn resistance. Troops landed under protection of the guns of the Nashville, which
fiercely bombarded the fortifications at
close range. The enemy's loss was over
fifty killed or mortally wounded, twentyeight being killed at bridge head at almost
hand-to-hand encounter, refusing to surrender. Our casualites were: Captain
Bradley Hancock, quartermaster of volunteers, ald to Kobbe, wounded in hand: six teers, ald to Kobbe, wounded in hand; six men, including one sailor on Nashville, slightly wounded. These ports contain great quantity of hemp ready for shipment and will be open on 30th instant. OTIS."

Rart Taken by the Navy.

Admiral Watson has cabled the Navy Department an account of the part taken by the navy in the splendid campaign now be ing made in southern Luzon by General Schwan. The admiral's dispatch refers to the engagement, or rather series of engagements, which took place along the eastern and southern shores of Lake Taal a week ago. There is no outlet from Lake Taal into the sea navigable for warships, but into the sea navigable for warships, but the Marletta took up a position close to the narrow neck of land which separates the lake from the sea and threw shells across into the insurgents' defenses. The admiral's account of the affair is as follows:

"MANILA, January 26, 1900.

"Secretary of Navy, Washington:

"The Marletta, with Gheen (commanding), on the 19th, co-operated with the army in the capture of Taal; enfiladed the insurgent trenches at about 1,600 yards.

insurgent trenches at about 1,600 yards.
Lieut. Price landed with Colt gun. Gheen reports that a battalion of the 46th, under Maj. Johnston, carried the bridge and town very gallantly, facing artillery and rifle fire.

WATSON."

Gen. Shafter at San Francisco reports to the War Department that the transport Pennsylvania left yesterday for Manila with Maj. Comegys, Paymasters Markley and Wygant, 24th Infantry; Assistant Surgeon Cox, Acting Assistant Surgeons Mc-Lean, Steuber and St. John, twenty signal corps men, one hospital corps man. Lieut. Seigle, 38th Infantry, and nine enlisted men 4th Cavalry as escort public funds.

The progress of the movement inaugural ed about three months ago toward the return to Spain of the persons released from the Filipinos is reported by General Otis in the following cablegram received at the War Department today:
"MANILA, 26th, 1900.

"Released Spanish prisoners, Seventy-four officers, 1,000 enlisted men, 22 civilian officials, 21 wives and 35 children were fur-nished transportation to Spain yesterday."

ALL QUIET AT FRANKFORT.

No Trouble Has Occurred at Ken-tucky's Capital as Yet. FRANKFORT, Ky., January 26 .- A clear, old day dawned on Frankfort this morn ing, and the people of the capital awoke with a sense of relief from a night of rest that had promised to be one of wild excitement. The resolutions adopted by the armed visitors in front of the capitol yes-

erday will be offered to both houses of

the legislature today.

At the opening of the house session the Van Meter-Berry contest from Jefferson county being a special order for this morncounty being a special order for this morning, a resolution was offered by Representative Grider of Bowling Green, providing that when majority and minority reports were presented by gubernatorial contest committee forty minutes should be allowed each side for debate and that all the evidence in the cases should be read. Mr. Finn (rep.) of Simpson county moved to lay the motion on the table, and as the republicans are avowedly for delay in the centest cases and the democrats for quick action, the vote was the first test of strength on the contest cases. The motion to lay on on the contest cases. The motion to lay the table was lost by a vote of 49 to 47. A compromise between the democra and republican leaders resulted in the ad-tion of a resolution that the house show hear the majority and minority reports a a committee of the whole, not less that twenty and not more than fifty minute being allowed for discussion and argument

Death of Patrick Larkin. Patrick Larkin, one of the veterans of the war of the rebellion, died at his residence 800 24th street, last night, after a long illness. Mr. Larkin enlisted in Company F of the 2d United States Cavalry, May 22, 1855, and served in the civil war until Feb ruary 24, 1863, when he was mustered out on account of disability. He was made on account of disability. He was made a private of the general service in the ad-jutant general's office, and served as such until June, 1896, when he was appointed an assistant messenger in the office of the Secretary of War, which office he held at the time of his death.

INJURIOUS TO THE GERMANS. mbassador Von Holleben Complains

of Customs Regulations. Secretary Hay has sent to Speaker Henlerson for submission to the House copies of complaints of the German government, presented by its ambassador here, Dr. Von Holleben, against the existing customs regulations of the United States applicable to

merchandise imported from Germany.

Ambassador Von Holleben's letter spe ies that the system is highly calculated to nest that the system is night calculated to injure the German export trade and in some cases lead to an entire disclosure of the conditions of production and the business secrets of German industry.

In conclusion he asks Secretary Hay "to give to the complaints of my government the kind consideration demanded by the friendly relations existing between the two countries."

ful perusal.

A LIBERAL EDUCATION.

Whether or not you wish

to buy anything the advertising columns of The Star amply repay the most care-

Tributes to the Memory of the Late Vice President.

REMARKS IN THE HOUSE

Claims for Dewey's Cutting the Manila Cable.

NO ACTION IS TAKEN

In the House of Representatives today the time after 2 o'clock was devoted to eulogies upon the life and public services of the late Vice President Hobart The conference report upon the census bill was adopted without division.

The Indian appropriation bill was A resolution was adopted calling upon the Secretary of the Interior for information as to the number of Indians on the Sac and Fox reservation, who were not paid their tribal allowances from 1855 to 1896; what such allowances would amount to and what portion of the salaries of the chiefs due under treaty stipulations from 1855 to 1809 have not been paid.

Sent to Conference.

The urgent deficiency bill was sent to conference, and Messrs. Cannon (III.), Barney (Wis.) and Livingston (Ga.) were appointed conferees. The House then proceeded to the con-sideration of bills upon the private calen-

Pay for Cut Manila Cuble. Mr. Mahon (Pa.) called up the bill to au-

thorize the Secretary of State to pay the Australasia and China Telegraph Company the amount of the expenses incurred in repairing the Manila-Hong Kong cable, cut by Admiral Dewey during the war with spain. This was the first bill carrying an appropriation to indemnify a company for property destroyed during the Spanish war.

Mr. Mahon explained that the government took the position that it was not liable for loss due to the interruption of business, but only for the actual expense of repairing the cable.

mr. Ray (N. Y.) said the Attorney General had reported that the company had no claim for indemnity. There were thousands of claims pending, and he thought it would establish a dangerous precedent to pay one which the Attorney General had reported against.

which the Attorney General had reported against.

Mr. Hitt (Iil.), chairman of the foreign affairs committee, thought the bill should be amended so as to state specifically that the claim was paid as an act of grace. the claim was paid as an act of grace.

Mr. Ray pointed out that since the American occupation of the Philippines the cable company had done more business in a single year than it would have done in twenty had the war not occurred. He thought there was no equity in the claim.

Mr. Ray said the cable company had received enormous sums of money from the government for the transmission of its business, and enormous tolls from press dispatches and private messages.

Mr. Moody (Mass.) argued that the law of nations was well settled that property of

nations was well settled that property o neutrals within the theater of war operations had to take its chances. He cited the case of some American fishermen whose claims had been disputed and held up by Great Britain, and declared that before we paid citizens of Great Britain indemnity as an act of grace England should be pelled to pay what was due our own

No action was taken upon the bill, and at 2 o'clock the House suspended public business to listen to tributes to the memory of the late Vice President Hobart.

Eulogy of the Late Vice President. Mr. Gardiner (N. J.) who served for say eral years in the state senate with Mr. Hobart, presented the resolutions of and was the first speaker.

Gardiner, "to do homage to the memory of one who was not a member of this House but who in his high office represented the suffrage and majesty of the greatest repubic.

The following is a list of others who paid ribute to the memory of Vice President Hobart in the House today: Mr. Stewart N. J.), Mr. Palyen (N. Y.), Mr. Palyen (Pa.), Mr. Richardson Pa.), Mr. Brosius (Pa.), Mr. Richardson

"We pause in our labors today," said Mr

(Fa.), Mr. Brossins (Fa.), Mr. Richardson (Tenn.), Mr. Grosvenor (Ohio), Mr. Parker (N. J.), Mr. Dolliver (Iowa), Mr. Dolly (N. J.), Mr. Cousins (Iowa), Mr. Dolly (N. J.), Mr. Loudenslager (N. J.), Mr. Griggs (Ga.), Mr. Salmon (N. J.), and Mr. Swan-

NOT UNDER CONSIDERATION o Negotiations Under Way Regard-

ing a Trans-Isthmian Canal. A statement made last week by authority to the effect that the government has engaged in no exchanges with foreign govrnments respecting the Nicaragua canal since the beginning of the present Congress may now be relterated. Certain conferences which have taken place in London between Mr. Choate, our ambassafor, and Lord Salisbury have not, as is dor, and Lord Salisbury have not, as is erroneously inferred in some quarters, had to do with the subject of an isthmian ca-nal, but related entirely to minor affairs, such as the ascertainment of facts relat-ing to the ownership of the American goods

seized by British cruisers, and other mat-ters of a like degree of importance. It is also gathered that there have been It is also gathered that there have been some exchanges within the last few months relative to the permanent delimitation of the boundary line between Alaska and British Columbia, but these have progressed languidly and without much encouragement for the hope of an immediately successful outcome.

ment for the hope of an immediately successful outcome.

Respecting the attitude of foreign nations toward the United States in the event that the pending Nicaraguan bill becomes a law, it can be stated that the subject has received nothing more than a preliminary consideration, and it is questionable whether inquiries on the subject from any foreign power would be acceptable while the bill itself is pending before Congress and its fate is uncertain. In the event of the final passage of the bill, it is probable that the first overtures directed to any foreign government by the United States in connection with this matter would be made to Costa Rica and Nicaragua, and not to a European power.

Suropean power. PROVIDENCE NOT YET CHOSEN. Washington Parties Said to Be Hust-

pecial Dispatch to The Evening Star. PHILADELPHIA, Pa., January 26.—
Providence has not been definitely selected as the eighth city of the new American Association, but has a clear inside track and will doubtless secure the plum, notwithstanding New Yoork parties have come forward at the eleventh hour with strong backing and a new ground below the Harlem river. Washington parties are also hustling to get in to escape being shut out of base ball altogether, as the brilliant Baltimore coup, executed by McGraw and his backers, make league circuit reduction to eight clubs inevitable.

(Signed)

F. C. RICHTER,
Editor Sporting Life. PHILADELPHIA, Pa., January 26 .-

F. C. RICHTER, Editor Sporting Life

The Sylph arrived at Washington yester

The gunboat Machias has arrived at La Guayra, and the Celtic has sailed from Sydney for Manila, by way of Brisbane.